

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Applicant respectfully requests the following amendments to the claim set:

1. (original) A temporal volume control device comprising:  
an audio output component for receiving information corresponding to a  
temporal ambient noise map and producing an audio volume level  
substantially corresponding to and greater than said temporal ambient  
noise map, said temporal ambient noise map comprising at least one  
ambient noise value corresponding to a time value for at least one period  
of time.
2. (original) The temporal volume control device of claim 1, wherein said audio  
output component utilizes said temporal ambient noise map to predict future ambient noise  
values.
3. (original) The temporal volume control device of claim 1, wherein a difference  
between said audio volume level and said temporal ambient noise map is constant over time.
4. (original) The temporal volume control device of claim 1, wherein said audio  
output component further comprises a manual volume control to selectively override said audio  
volume level.

5. (original) The temporal volume control device of claim 1, wherein said at least one period of time comprises twenty-four hours.

6. (original) The temporal volume control device of claim 1, further comprising an ambient noise monitoring component for iteratively recording at least one ambient noise value corresponding to a time value for at least one period of time to create said temporal ambient noise map.

7. (original) The temporal volume control device of claim 6, wherein said ambient noise monitoring component operates independently of said audio output component.

8. (original) The temporal volume control device of claim 6, wherein said ambient noise monitoring component is integral to said audio output component.

9. (original) The temporal volume control device of claim 6, wherein said ambient noise monitoring component further averages said at least one ambient noise value corresponding to said time value over said at least one period of time to obtain an average ambient noise value corresponding to said time value.

10. (original) The temporal volume control device of claim 9, wherein said temporal ambient noise map comprises said average ambient noise values corresponding to said time values over said period of time.

11. (original) A method for controlling audio output volume, said method comprising:  
monitoring levels of ambient noise over at least one period of time;  
averaging said levels of ambient noise to create a temporal ambient noise map;  
communicating said temporal ambient noise map to an audio output device, said audio output device capable of automatically adjusting an audio output volume level to substantially correspond to said temporal ambient noise map; and  
producing, via said audio output device, audio information according to said audio output volume level.
12. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein said monitoring further comprises correlating at least one ambient noise value with at least one time value over said at least one period of time.
13. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein said averaging further comprises determining an average ambient noise value corresponding to said at least one time value over said at least one period of time.
14. (original) The method of claim 11, further comprising maintaining said audio output volume level at a level greater than levels corresponding to said temporal ambient noise map.

15. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein a difference between said audio output volume level and said levels corresponding to said temporal ambient noise map is constant over time.

16. (original) The method of claim 11, further comprising selectively overriding, via a manual volume control, said audio output volume level.

17. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein said at least one period of time comprises twenty-four hours.

18. (original) A computer program product for implementing within a computer system a method for controlling audio output volume, said computer program product comprising:

a computer readable medium for providing computer program code

means utilized to implement the method, wherein the computer program code means is comprised of executable code for implementing the steps for:

producing audio output substantially corresponding

to and greater than a temporal ambient noise map, wherein said temporal ambient noise map comprises at least one average ambient noise value corresponding to a time value for at least one period of time.

19. (original) The computer program product of claim 18, wherein said computer program code further comprises executable code for implementing the steps for:

monitoring levels of ambient noise over at least one period of time;

and

averaging said levels of ambient noise to create said temporal

ambient noise map.